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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

SARPONG, AKWASI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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11/13/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/676,488	Applicant(s) DOBBS, MICHAEL DAVID	
	Examiner AKWASI M. SARPONG	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 July 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09/30/2009 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09/30/2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claim 20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Limitation " wherein said means for covering edges of said scanning bed are configured to **statically** (emphases) reduce an effective scanning area of said means for scanning. Especially there is nowhere in the specification where it is described a means of statically covering edges of the scanning area.

Claims 21-23 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement as well since they all depend on Claim 20.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sesek (2002/0109867) in view of Takeda (6204937).

1.

Claim 1, Sesek discloses an image reproduction apparatus (**Fig. 1 shows clearly a scanner used for reproducing images**) comprising:

a transparent scanning bed (**Section 0023, lines 1-8, Fig. 1, El. 11, thus flat bed surface is a transparent bed**)

a scanning device (**Section 0023, Lines1-10, Fig. 1 Element 10**) optically coupled to said scanning bed, (**Section 0028 lines 1-5 thus the scanning bed is configured with optical guides, sensors and detectors**)_said scanning device comprising a **photoconductive** platen configured to receive light reflected off of an object on said scanning bed (**Section 0029, thus scanable surface 11 is flat surface that receives light from the light source**) and

an adjustable bar (**Section 0024, Fig. 1 Element 16a, 16b, 15a and 15b- these bars are adjusted by moving them to define an area preferred by the user**)

associated with said scanning bed (**Fig.1 Element 11, thus the scanning flat bed surface 11**).

Sesek does not disclose wherein said adjustable shade is configured to be selectively extended from a position adjacent said scanning bed to cover a portion of said scanning bed including from an edge of said scanning bed to a leading edge of said adjustable shade and an underside of said shade presented to said scanning device through said bed being colored such that substantially no light is reflected onto

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said photoconductive platen when scanning said underside of said shade thereby effectively reducing a size of said scanning bed.

Takeda discloses wherein said adjustable shade (**Col. 5, Lines 54-65, Fig. 8, El 42L, NB: understands that plate 42 is a shade because it shield light and it also adjustable because the user can move the plate by motor 41 and screws 44**) configured to be selectively extended from a position adjacent said scanning bed (**Col. 6 lines 12-22, Fig. 8, El. 42 or light shielding plate, thus the plate extend from an edge of the scanner because as the plate moves in A direction as shown in fig. 8, the shield extends in the X or horizontal axis and the rotation of Nuts 43 (L and R) extends the plate in the Y or vertical direction**) to cover a portion of said scanning bed including from an edge of said scanning bed to a leading edge of said adjustable shade (**Col. 1, Lines 59-67, Fig. 8, El. 42 (L and R) , understands that since plates 42(L and R) is in between the plates and the original image it shields or blocks light and it also covers unwanted portions of the original image depending upon the users preference**) and an underside of said shade presented to said scanning device (**Fig. 8 shows the top view of the scanning device and therefore the underside of plates 42 (L and R) will be facing the scanning device**) through said bed being colored such that substantially no light is reflected onto said photoconductive platen (**Col. 6 lines 1-5, Fig. 8, Plates 42 (L and R) - thus the plates will not be transparent since its purpose is the shield or block light during scanning**) when scanning said underside of said shade thereby effectively reducing a size of said scanning bed. (**Abstract lines 9-12, thus when plate 42 shields or**

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blocks light it also covers unwanted portion of the original image so that the unwanted portion can not be reproduced). Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Seseek's bars to includes Takeda's light shielding plates so that users have the option of effectively defining an area for scanning.

Claim 2, Seseek in view of Takeda further discloses wherein said scanning device comprises:

a light source configured to illuminate said scanning bed such that said platen obtains a latent image of an object on said scanning bed. **(Seseek: Paragraph 0029 Line 4, thus there should be a light source during scanning for the scanner cover 18 minimize unwanted light).**

Claim 3, Seseek in view of Takeda further discloses wherein said scanning bed is configured to receive a document **(Seseek: Fig. 1 Element 14 shows clearly that the flat bed is the place for the document to be placed for scanning).**

Claim 4, Seseek in view of Takeda further discloses wherein said scanning bed comprises glass **(Seseek: Paragraph 0023 Line 5, thus the scanning bed is made of a glass).**

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Claim 5, “wherein said scanning bed comprises plastic,” reads on Seseek’s sliding shade (**Seseek: Fig. 1 Element 16a, 16b, 15a, 15 b, it will be for an ordinary skilled in the art to modify Seseek’s glass with a plastic).**

Claim 6, Seseek in view Takeda further discloses wherein said adjustable shade comprises an opaque material. (**Seseek: Note Fig. 1 Elements 16a, 16b, 15a, and 15b are opaque for the purpose of blocking light**) and (**Takeda: Fig. 8 El. 42R and 42L are opaque materials used to block light during scanning**).

NB: It is well know that opaque object blocks or disallow light to pass through.

Claim 9, Seseek in view of Takeda further discloses an adjustable shade disposed on each side of said scanning bed (**Seseek: Fig. 1 Element 16a, 16b, 15a and 15b**) and (**Takeda: Fig. 8 El. 42R and 42L are opaque materials used to block light during scanning**).

NB: Be aware that plates 42 (L and R) when it is adjusted by the help of the motor and screws, it extends in both the vertical (Main scan direction) and horizontal axis (sub scan direction) and therefore it cover the original image from the four edges of the scanner.

Claim 10, Seseek in view of Takeda discloses wherein said adjustable shades are coupled to said image reproduction device and said adjustable shades are configured to be drawn to a desired length, maintain said desired length for a desired length of time, and to be retracted by a spring and lock mechanism. **(Seseek: Fig. 9 and 10) and (Seseek: Paragraph 0032 Lines 1-13, Fig. 6, Element 33) and (Takeda: Fig. 8 El. 43(R and L) and 44(R andL) reads on the spring and lock mechanism).**

NB: Understand that when shield 43 (R and L) is adjusted to the desired location or position the shield maintains that position till it is retracted back to its formal location and therefore the length of the shield is maintained for at least the time that a document is being scanned.

Claim 11, Seseek discloses a method of adjusting a target area of an image reproduction apparatus **(Paragraph 0035 Fig. 8 Element 40)** comprising:

placing said object on said drawn bars **(Paragraph 0023 Lines 11-12 Fig. 1 Element 11).**

and scanning said object. **(Fig. 8 Element 47).**

wherein an underside of said shade that is presented to said scanning bed is colored such that said scanning outputs no image of said underside of said shade thereby effectively reducing a size of said scanning bed **(Section 0024 and 0025-thus as the bars defines the area desired by the user the other area of the flat surface will not be scanned).**

Sesek does not disclose selectively covering an edge of scanning bed by drawing a shade over said edge of said scanning bed.

Takeda discloses selectively covering an edge of scanning bed by drawing a shade over said edge of said scanning bed. **(Col. 6 Lines 12-22, Fig. 8 El. 42 (R and L)-thus motors 41L and R moves or draw the shielding plates from the edges of the scanner beds).** Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sesek bars to include Takeda's shielding plates so that it will be able to shield or block the light coming from the light source in avoid reproducing the covered portion of the image by Plates 42 (L and R).

NB: Nuts 43 (L and R) rotates with respect to subscan direction and shield plates 42 (L and R) also rotates in the main scan direction. Therefore Nuts 43 covers the vertical edges while the shield plate 42 covers the horizontal edges.

Claim 12, Sesek in view of Takeda (Sesek: Fig. 9 Elements x1, x2, y1, y2 shows that the distance x1, x2, y1 and y2 has to be measured for the pointers to be moved) discloses wherein said drawing shade comprises: measuring a distance from said shade to a furthest point of a certain condition; and extending said shade equal to said distance. **(Takeda: Col. 6 Lines 61-67, thus the user has to know by measuring the distance from the edge of the document to the portion that does not interest him or her.**

Claim 13, Sesek (Note Fig. 1 Elements 16a, 16b, 15a, and 15b are opaque for the purpose of blocking light) in view of Takeda further disclose wherein said shade comprises an opaque material **(Takeda: Fig. 8, Plates 42 (L and R) has to be an opaque object in order to be able to block light from passing through):** wherein said opaque material is configured to prevent the scanning of an object. **(Takeda: Fig. 8, Plates 42 (L and R) is clearly an opaque material since it blocks or prevent light from getting to the original image).**

Claim 16, “wherein said shade is wound on said reel which further comprises a spring and lock mechanism” reads on Takeda’s Fig. 8 El. 43(R and L) s.

Claim 17, “ wherein said spring and lock mechanism is configured to permit said shade to be drawn to a desired length, maintain said desired length for a desired length of time, and to be retracted to said shade reel”. Reads on Takeda’s threaded screw in EL. 43(R and L) in Fig. 8 since it is used to extend the level of the shielding plates.

Claim 18, Sesek in view of Takeda **(Takeda: Fig. 8 El. 42(L and R)** discloses a shade wherein an underside of said shade is configured to reflect an emitted light **(Sesek: Fig. 1 El 16 and 15 (a and b)).**

Claim 19, "wherein said underside of said shade is white also reads on Sesek’s Bars **(Fig. 1 El. 16 and 15).**

Claim 20, Sesek discloses a scanning device for eliminating unwanted areas of a scanned image (Fig. 1) said scanning device comprising:

means for scanning (**Fig. 1 Element 10, thus the scanning device is used as a means for scanning device**).

Sesek does not disclose means for selectively covering edges of a scanning bed such that said means for scanning outputs no image markings when scanning said covered portions of said scanning bed and wherein said means for covering edges of said scanning bed are configured to selectively reduce an effective scanning area of said means for scanning.

Takeda discloses means (plates 42 (L and R) for selectively covering edges of a scanning bed (**Col. 6 lines 12-22, Fig. 8, El. 42 or light shielding plate, thus the plate extend from an edge of the scanner because as the plate moves in A direction as shown in fig. 8, the shield extends in the X or horizontal axis and the rotation of Nuts 43 (L and R) extends the plate in the Y or vertical direction**) such that said means for scanning outputs no image markings when scanning said covered portions of said scanning bed (**Col. 1, Lines 59-67, Fig. 8, El. 42 (L and R) , understands that since plates 42(L and R) is in between the plates and the original image it shields or blocks light and it also covers unwanted portions of the original image depending upon the users preference**) wherein said means for covering edges of said scanning bed are configured to selectively and statically reduce an effective scanning area of said means for scanning. (**Abstract lines 9-12, thus**

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when plate 42 shields or blocks light it also covers unwanted portion of the original image so that the unwanted portion can not be reproduced).

Claim 21, Seseek in view of Takeda discloses wherein said means for scanning comprises:

a scanning unit **(Seseek: Fig. 1 Element 10 in which inherently include a scanning unit, i.e optical reader).**

a transparent scanning bed **(Seseek: Paragraph 0023 Line 3-6 Fig 1 Element 11)** optically coupled to said scanning unit.

Claim 23, “wherein said shade reel comprises a spring and lock mechanism configured to allow selective retraction and retraction of said shade reel” reads on Takeda’s threaded screw in Fig 8 El. 42 (L and R) since that is the mechanism that operates the movements of the shield plates.

Claim 24, Seseek in view of Takeda discloses a scanning method that further comprising using said scanning from imaging a spine of a bound volume **(Seseek: Spine bound volume has to be excluded from the scan area as disclosed in Fig. 9).**

Claim 25, Seseek in Takeda **(Col. 6 Lines 1-5, Fig. 8 El. 42(L and R) clearly shows that these elements are used for shielding light from the light source)** discloses a method that further comprising using said shade to prevent said scanning

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from imaging a notation on a document. **(Takeda: The notation has to be excluded from the scan area as disclosed in Fig. 9).**

2. Claims 7, 8, 9, 14, 15 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sesek (2002/0109867) in view of Takeda (6204937) and further in view of Rauen (4721981).

Claim 7, Sesek in view of Takeda does not disclose adjustable shade further comprises a shade reel including a spring and a lock mechanism.

Rauen discloses adjustable shade further comprises a shade **(curtain shade)** reel **(recoiled shown in Fig. 2, El. 44 or idler roller-Col. 9 lines 5-10)** including a spring **(Col. 9 lines 35-40 –thus the spring is used for locking and retraction)** and a lock mechanism. **(Col. 9 lines 5-43 thus the spring is used for automatically locking the curtain shade when it is pulled to a leading edge)**. Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sesek's in view of Takeda's bars to include Rauen's curtain shade and the spring so that when it is pulled to a leading edge it will automatically retract back into the coil.

Claim 8, Sesek in view of Takeda does not disclose wherein said opaque material is coiled around said shade reel.

Rauen discloses wherein said opaque material **(Col. 9 lines 6-10, Fig. 1 El. 24 Curtain shade)** is coiled around said shade reel **(Col. 13 lines 17-26, Fig. 2, El. 44**

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shows clearly that curtain shade 44 is coiled around during retraction). Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Seseek in view of Takeda's shield plate with curtain shade so the it will be able to retract into a coil which will make the whole scanning device portable.

Claim 14, Seseek discloses an optical scanner (**Fig. 1 EI 10 shows a scanner**) with an adjustable bars (**Fig. 1 Element 16a, 16b, 15a and 15b, thus these bars are adjusted because they are moved to a desired position of the user**) comprising a shade groove or recess disposed at an edge of a scanning bed of said optical scanner and a shade coupled to said shade groove or recess (**Section 0024 and 0025, Fig. 1 EI 16 and 17, thus the groove and recess is on the edge of the flat bed scanner and therefore it allows the bars to be extended from each of the edges on the flat bed scanner**) ;

Seseek does not disclose a shade coupled to said shade groove or recess and wherein the area of the scanning bed by said bars that is presented to said scanning bed as the area of the image is such that said optical scanner does not output any image markings when scanning said underside of said shade thereby effectively reducing a scan target area of said optical scanner and the shade coupled to said shade reel.

Takeda disclose an underside of said shade presented to said scanning device (**Fig. 8 shows the top view of the scanning device and therefore the underside of plates 42 (L and R) will be facing the scanning device**) through said bed being

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colored such that substantially no light is reflected onto said photoconductive platen **(Col. 6 lines 1-5, Fig. 8, Plates 42 (L and R) - thus the plates will not be transparent since its purpose is the shield or block light during scanning)** when scanning said underside of said shade thereby effectively reducing a size of said optical scanner. **(Abstract lines 9-12, thus when plate 42 shields or blocks light it also covers unwanted portion of the original image so that the unwanted portion can not be reproduced)**. Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sesek's bars to includes Takeda's light shielding plates so that users have the option of effectively defining an area for scanning.

Sesek in view of Takeda does not disclose wherein the said shade is coupled to said shade reel.

Rauen discloses wherein the said shade **(Curtain shade - Col. 9 lines 8-15 , fig. 1 El 24)** is coupled to said shade reel (Col. 13, lines 17-26- thus the curtain shade is coiled around roller 44 as shown clearly in Fig. 1, El. 26). Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Sesek in view of Takeda shielding plates with the Curtain shade as taught by Rauen so that it will be easier to retract it into its coil which will make the whole device portable.

Claim 15, Sesek in view of Takeda discloses all the limitations in Claim 14 but does not disclose wherein said shade comprises opaque material that is concentrically wrapped around said shade reel.

Rauen discloses wherein said shade comprises opaque material (**Col. 9 lines 6-10, Fig. 1 El. 24 Curtain shade**) that is concentrically wrapped around said shade reel. (**Col. 13 lines 17-26, Fig. 2, El. 44 shows clearly that curtain shade 44 is coiled around during retraction**). Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sesek in view of Takeda's shield plate with curtain shade so the it will be able to retract into a coil which will make the whole scanning device portable.

Claim 22, Sesek in view of Takeda discloses all the limitations in Claim 20 as discusses earlier, however Sesek in view of Takeda does not disclose wherein said means for shading comprises a shade reel and an Opaque material coupled to said shade reel.

Reuen discloses wherein said means for shading comprises a shade reel (**Fig. 1 El. 26 shows a coiled shade**) and an Opaque material coupled to said shade reel. (**Col. 9 lines 6-10, Fig. 1 El. 24 Curtain shade and Col. 13 lines 17-26, Fig. 2, El. 44 shows clearly that curtain shade 44 is coiled around during retraction**). Therefore it will be obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Sesek in view of Takeda's shield plate with curtain shade so the it will be able to retract into a coil which will make the whole scanning device portable.

Response to Applicant's arguments

1. The response of the applicant filled on 07/29/2008 was considered but was not persuasive.

Regarding Claim 1 applicant argues that the cited reference fails to teach or suggest adjustable shade that is selectively extended to cover a portion of scanning bed from the edge of the bed to a leading edge of the shade.

In reply examiner respectfully disagree because Takeda discloses wherein said adjustable shade (**Col. 5, Lines 54-65, Fig. 8, El 42L, NB: understands that plate 42 is a shade because it shield light and it also adjustable because the user can move the plate by motor 41 and screws 44**) configured to be selectively extended from a position adjacent said scanning bed (**Col. 6 lines 12-22, Fig. 8, El. 42 or light shielding plate, thus the plate extend from an edge of the scanner because as the plate moves in A direction as shown in fig. 8, the shield extends in the X or horizontal axis and the rotation of Nuts 43 (L and R) extends the plate in the Y or vertical direction**) to cover a portion of said scanning bed including from an edge of said scanning bed to a leading edge of said adjustable shade (**Col. 1, Lines 59-67, Fig. 8, El. 42 (L and R) , understands that since plates 42(L and R) is in between the plates and the original image it shields or blocks light and it also covers unwanted portions of the original image depending upon the users preference**).

Furthermore, Rauen discloses in Col. 9 lines 17-46 about a curtain shade that is attached to an edge of a platen cover that also covers over a document which is about to be scanned. Therefore the two cited reference both suggests the technology of using a shade curtain to block or cover unwanted portion of a document.

Secondly, applicant also argues that the cited reference fails to teach or suggest is extended to cover a portion of the scanning bed, that "an underside of said shade presented to said scanning device through said bed is colored such that said substantially no light is reflected onto said photoconductive platen when scanning said underside of said shade thereby effectively reducing a size of said scanning bed."

In reply, Examiner respectfully disagree because an underside of said shade presented to said scanning device (**Fig. 8 shows the top view of the scanning device and therefore the underside of plates 42 (L and R) will be facing the scanning device**) through said bed being colored such that substantially no light is reflected onto said photoconductive platen (**Col. 6 lines 1-5, Fig. 8, Plates 42 (L and R) - thus the plates will not be transparent since its purpose is the shield or block light during scanning**) when scanning said underside of said shade thereby effectively reducing a size of said scanning bed. (**Abstract lines 9-12, thus when plate 42 shields or blocks light it also covers unwanted portion of the original image so that the unwanted portion can not be reproduced**).

Thirdly, applicant also argues that the cited reference fails to take that light shielding plates 42R, 42L "cover a portion of said scanning bed including from an edge of said scanning bed to a leading edge of said adjustable shade" such that "substantially no light is reflected onto said photoconductive platen when scanning said underside of said shade."

In reply examiner respectfully disagree because to cover a portion of said scanning bed including from an edge of said scanning bed to a leading edge of said adjustable shade (**Col. 1, Lines 59-67, Fig. 8, El. 42 (L and R) , understands that since plates 42(L and R) is in between the plates and the original image it shields or blocks light and it also covers unwanted portions of the original image depending upon the users preference**) and an underside of said shade presented to said scanning device (**Fig. 8 shows the top view of the scanning device and therefore the underside of plates 42 (L and R) will be facing the scanning device**) through said bed being colored such that substantially no light is reflected onto said photoconductive platen (**Col. 6 lines 1-5, Fig. 8, Plates 42 (L and R) - thus the plates will not be transparent since its purpose is the shield or block light during scanning**) when scanning said underside of said shade thereby effectively reducing a size of said scanning bed. (**Abstract lines 9-12, thus when plate 42 shields or blocks light it also covers unwanted portion of the original image so that the unwanted portion can not be reproduced**).

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Applicant also argues that it is not obvious for one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the bars taught by Sesek with the shielding plates in Takeda's invention.

In reply, examiner respectively disagree because both Sesek and Takeda teach scanning device which defines a desired area of a user while the unwanted portion of the document is removed from the final document.

Applicant also argues that the significance of the difference between the claimed invention and the cited prior art and therefore the claims are allowable.

In reply: examiner respectively disagrees because as the applicant clearly disclose in paragraph 0002 and 0003 the objective of the invention is to scan an image and remove the unwanted portion of the document.

Seseks teaches in paragraphs 0001 and 0002 that the invention is about the capability of the scanner to be able to allow a user to define a desired area of a document and remove an unwanted portion of the document.

Also Takeda also teach the same background idea of the invention. Therefore Both the claimed invention and the cited references solves the same problem of removing an unwanted portion of a document by either blocking or shielding the unwanted portion of the document.

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1. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AKWASI M. SARPONG whose telephone number is (571)270-3438. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on 571-272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/King Y. Poon/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625